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Correspondence from practical farmers, giving the results of their experience, is solicited. Letters should be signed with the writer's real name, in full, and will be printed or not, as the writer may wish.

The PLOUGHMAN offers great advantages to advertisers. Its circulation is large and among the most active and intelligent portion of the community.

Entered as second-class mail matter.

Home-Grown Feed for Hogs.

In my own practice I never kept my breeding stock fat; for I believe it is impossible to raise strong and healthy pigs from fat parents. My pigs are raised mostly from old sows, and never from sows less than twelve to sixteen months old.

After the pigs come feed them very little, as sows is one of my worst troubles. I have found no way to prevent this disease except by limiting the feed for these sows for a week or so after farrowing. Of course I feed my pigs in addition to what they get from the dams, but do this very carefully. I plan to change feed every few weeks, and never feed ground pigs anything that I don't feed their dams. I feed my hogs what I can raise on my farm, taking care to produce all variety possible.

Corn, if rightly fed and supplemented with other grains not of a fattening nature, is one of the best feeds I know of. I like good wheat shorts for feeding with corn when not too costly. I have fed a great deal of this. For the last two years shorts have been very high and hard to get, so I have been feeding ground oats. I like oats nearly as well as shorts, and they are much more easily fed.

I keep my hogs on pasture as much as possible and have never been able to make pigs do their best without clover. I supply plenty of pure well water, salt the hogs regularly, giving all the ashes I have, and in addition burn and char the cobs that accumulate from feeding corn.

New York. J. P. FLETCHER.

A Place for Evergreen Trees.

One thing about evergreens, they are not wanted much in the near front of a house. Their place is at the back or sides of the place to break off from the strong winds in winter, and that is what the evergreen does. We do not want evergreens in front of a house, especially when it fronts to the south, which in this region, for comfort, it should always do.

There are several varieties of evergreens good to put about the grounds. The best of all is the white pine, then the Norway spruce, then some of the firs. There are some fine lots of Arbor Vite in town, and, used as hedges, they are best of all. Hemlocks make a handsome hedge, but are hard to keep handsome when pruned, and often die down in places before many years.

There is no town where one cannot find some spots where evergreens are wanted. Sometimes only one is wanted. Again, a clump, larger or smaller, and sometimes even a hedge would improve the surroundings. There are some places where large evergreens are wanted to screen the northern winds in some corner of a large clump for protecting a larger space. In such a place the Norway spruce or the hemlock would be best, or, if a larger space is wanted to be filled, the white pine would fill the bill, and perhaps sometimes a variety of spruces and firs might do. Where an extra fine specimen is wanted in the lawn or about the house, there is a large variety to draw from.

Among these the blue fir, silver fir, Nordmann's fir, two or three of the spruces, the Colorado blue spruce, Engelmann spruce and Norway spruce, and pines, Austrian, Mugho and red pine.

There will be places where large fields need or should need to be planted to evergreens. In such cases generally white pines would be the best, and more lasting, as most of the spruces are too short-lived.

Concord, Mass. PROF. F. G. PRATT.

Frauds in Foods and Drugs.

A very important bill, and, on careful consideration, one of more than ordinary import, called the "Hepburn pure food, drug and liquor bill," passed the House of Representatives by a very substantial majority, and was taken up by the Senate April 6 for consideration. The days of wooden nutmegs, watered rum and sanded sugar have not passed away by any manner of means.

Scores of unscrupulous dealers interpret the Golden Rule, "Do others as they do you." Not being content with a fair living profit, they resort to adulteration of their goods, and not only thereby, in their inordinate greed for gain, reap enormous profits, but ruin, for the use of the trades and for export, the goods they practice upon in their contemptible adulteration. A case in point, is in the adulteration of the spirits of turpentine, an article used by the painter's trade as a dryer. This sells from sixty to seventy cents per gallon, in three-barrel lots. The plan is to withdraw ten gallons of the spirits from the cask and replace it with ten gallons of six cents per gallon cottonseed oil. The remaining twenty gallons, it is claimed, taken up the oil, making de-

tection impossible until the painter's work is finished, when the paint rolls up and scales off, thus discrediting the workmanship.

Owing to the war between Japan and Russia, camphor has been prohibited export from Japan, and chemists have discovered that spirits of turpentine lack only one constituent of the imported camphor.

In foods the same rule applies, as the exhibit before the House abundantly proves. Fruit preserves, minus fruit, with glucose and flavoring and other ingredients to take the place of fruit; olive oil, without a particle of oil, being used in the fabrication. Flavoring extracts, made from coal-tar, without a sign of fruit or spice origin, and so on through the list. Liquors, also, of the "make while you wait" kind and quality; port wine from pure logwood shavings colored, flavored and blended. More of this quality is believed to be sold in Boston and other municipalities throughout this country in six

one at Governor's Island. The Colonial Legislature granted him the use of this island for a rental of two bushels of apples, one for the governor and one for the Legislature.

In 1730 apples were for sale in the market from the Blackstone orchard. Hon. Paul Dudley sent to England in 1726 an account of the culture of fruit in Roxbury. He tells of trees there which were from six to ten feet and each bearing from thirty to thirty-eight bushels. He closed his letter by saying: "Our people of late years have run so much to orchards that a village of forty families near Boston made nearly three thousand barrels of cider; another of two hundred families made nearly ten thousand barrels. Governor Hancock's grounds near the site of the present State House, Governor Hutchinson's place at the North End, near Hoover and Fleet streets; Governor Bowdoin's and his son's place at Dorchester, and many other places in and

carloads per annum; \$600,000 are received every year by the ranchers of southern California for walnuts. When southern California is favored with winter rains, the following results as regards cereals are obtained: Two hundred thousand bushels of corn, five hundred thousand of oats, two million of wheat and four million of barley; the hay crop amounts to 320,000 tons and the price paid is \$10 per ton. This is April and no rain to speak of has fallen this winter; in consequence, hay is \$22 a ton. A hundred million pounds of beets are turned into sugar in southern California every year. But, after all, the greatest amount of money in southern California is made by hotel keepers out of tourists.

Los Angeles, Cal. E. H. RYDALL.

Keeping a Few Hogs.

I keep about twenty cows and keep a few hogs in the basement. What skim milk I have to spare goes to them and a few

weeks, then dry and smoke. I do not use any saltpetre in any meat, it isn't fit for any one to eat, and the meat keeps just as good without it. Just try the dry-cure.

J. A. Saunders, Niantic, R. I.

Boiling Maple Syrup.

A common mistake is to secure a boiling apparatus too small for the output of sap. There should be sufficient capacity to make up the sap as fast as gathered. Long storage injures the quality of the product. The sap should be stored outside of the boiling room, as steam and heat induce fermentation. The firewood should also be stored outside, else steam will work into it and cause slow fires when such fuel is used.

The boiling room should be well vented and a good clean floor is necessary to avoid dust. The sap should not boil to over three-fourths of an inch from the surface of the evaporator. Canning the syrup re-

running expenses were \$55 to \$60 a day, and we needed good prices to pay bills. This spring we have had better weather for hot-house stuff. Prices are lower, but still fairly good."

THRIFTY CUCUMBERS.

At this time of year cucumbers are, perhaps, the most interesting of the crops under glass. They largely supersede lettuce during the spring and now occupy most of the space in Boston greenhouses. They are to be seen in all stages, from the two-leaved seedlings just showing above the pot in which they are started, to the fine, thrifty, luxuriant vines extending yards along the wire netting and bearing loads of bright green fruit. The cucumber is a warm-weather plant, and hence well adapted for forcing spring and early summer, when the required heat can be kept up without too great expense. The thermometer in many of the houses registered above 80°, and the soil was warm and loose from the effect of stable manure trenched under before setting the plants. Under such conditions the plants grow very fast and come into bearing in three or four weeks from transplanting. Most of the growers sow radishes in drills between the cucumbers, the radishes being pulled before the cucumbers are fully grown.

Insect pests are plenty, but the gardeners are learning better each year how to fight them. Steam heating of the soil kills many insects and disease germs before the crop is started. Steam has also been applied directly to the plants in some instances to kill red spiders, etc., but with doubtful success. At the Hittenger place, Mr. Richard Hittenger was thoroughly spraying with cold water his largest house of cucumbers and radishes, mainly to check the red spider, and the cold spray is a favorite treatment for this pest. Most other insects are subdued by fumigation with dampened tobacco stems. The cucumber houses with their high temperature, bright foliage and the hum of bees are suggestive of summer, and a decided contrast to the last week's ice and lingering snow outside.

BEES WANTED.

The bees are kept to fertilize the blossoms, and thereby is a pointer for somebody who has bees to sell. Most of the swarms around Boston seem to have died last winter. At any rate, those who usually have them to sell to gardeners have few to spare this year. The swarms which are kept in greenhouses seldom live more than one season, and the gardeners buy fresh lots every spring, some taking as many as twenty to forty hives, and getting good prices. If those who have bees to sell will advertise the fact, they will find eager buyers among the gardeners.

THE FRUIT SITUATION.

Fruit trees appear to be increasing in numbers in the market garden sections. It is quite a common plan for gardeners who wish to keep their land occupied without engaging in very heavy operations to set out trees. After these are established they bear good crops on the rich heavy soils around Boston, and pay well with moderate cost for labor. Pears seem to be the favorite; admitting of close planting, and bearing early and regularly on the heavy soils. A good many apples are growing, and some cherries, quince and plums. The land is rather low and moist for peaches, but some growers, including Hittenger Brothers, think well of peaches grafted on plum roots. These seem to thrive well and make a slower, tougher growth than on peach stock. Peaches, by the way, appear to have withstood the winter in the vicinity of Boston so far as the tree itself is concerned, but most of the fruit buds are reported dead.

HUNGRY FIELD MICE.

The white-rooted mice have been desperately hungry the past winter, and now the snow has gone, we may find sometimes, under a log or stone-heap, a yellowish-brown skin, from which the body has been eaten. During ordinary winters, these dainty creatures are able to subsist on seeds, nuts, cherry-stones, and the like; but when food is as scarce as it was a while back, they sometimes are obliged to eat one another. The meadow mice, if not reduced to such straits as this, have at least been kept busy in their efforts to obtain sufficient food.

Only recently I went out to a plantation of several hundred young trees, and found that every one of them had been killed by the meadow mice, which had gnawed off the bark all the way round, in some cases to a height of two feet or more from the ground.

It would seem that an army of mice must have been engaged, so great was the destruction wrought, and indeed few of us realize how numerous these little rodents are until we begin to hunt for them systematically. In spite of the fact that they are the natural prey of hawks, owls, cats, weasels, mink, skunks and foxes, their name is legion. They are wonderfully prolific, having usually eight young in a litter, and at least two litters a year. The winding footpaths which they make through the meadows, if straightened out and placed end to end, would reach for thousands of miles—a wonderful "road system" for little creatures only six and a half inches long.

And when the snow melts away, and the freshets flood the low-lying meadows, the mice which dwell there in the winter are obliged to seek higher ground, and how they escape drowning is a mystery, unless they have some warning that their burrows are soon to be flooded.—Ernest Harold Baynes, Middlesex County, Mass.

FOR CROPS UNDER GLASS.

Dairying gives the best returns for labor and care devoted to it, not only in dollars and cents, as the immediate returns for the product, but in the prospective remuneration by way of improving the fertility and productiveness of the farm.—Otis Meader, Kennebec County, Me.



NEW CLIMBING ROSE, "LADY GAY," GROWN BY M. H. WALSH, WOOD'S HOLE, MASS.

A Seedling from the Popular Crimson Rambler Which It Resembles in Habit of Growth and General Effect. Flowers Delicate Cherry Pink, Foliage Very Profuse, Glossy Deep Green. Plant is a Vigorous Grower and Perfectly Hardy.

months than is imported in six years of the genuine vineyard production. Ten cent per pint of whiskey, concocted from white spirit of kerosene, colored, flavored, blended and beaded, to cater to those in the lowest stages of inebriation.

In connection with this very important and most admirable bill, is an appropriation for a laboratory and chemical department for the use of the Agricultural Department in the examination of foods, drugs, liquors, fruits, manures, fertilizers, etc., extending the scope and usefulness of this important bureau to the general public, many of whom contribute to the "true wealth" of the farmer.

ISAAC H. FROTHINGHAM.
36 Milford Street, Boston.

BEGINNINGS OF APPLE GROWING.

Since the first settlement of this country, Boston has been in advance in agricultural and horticultural development and has made rapid progress in the science of pomology. In 1625 or 1626, Rev. William Blackstone had an orchard on the west slope of Beacon Hill. Governor Endicott established nurseries in Salem as early as 1628, and in 1648 sold five hundred apple trees to William Task for 250 acres of land. Governor Winthrop was very prominent in horticultural matters as early as 1630, having land on the Mystic river and a garden at the foot of School street, and also another

around Boston are noted for their orchards. Roxbury is particularly noted for its apple culture, and some farms there have produced from five hundred to one thousand barrels of Roxbury Russets. The orchards through Essex, Middlesex and Norfolk counties testify to the adaptability of soil and climate for apple culture.—A. A. Hixon.

FORMING IN CALIFORNIA.

California is a land of imminencies. Vast mountain ranges almost cover the entire State, leaving, fortunately, vast valleys that are covered with countless cattle, the citrus forests, and in the south, particularly, vast wastes of sage brush and cactus eternally scorched by the diurnal sun, which rises and sets without interruption some 350 days in every year in southern California.

Underneath some parts of California a sea of oil exists more or less mixed with petroleum; of the former nearly fifteen million barrels were brought to the surface in the year 1903; the son of one insignificant grocer in Los Angeles, Cal., is now receiving a thousand dollars a day for his interest in oil wells; of petroleum twenty-five million barrels were produced last year. The southern and sun-scorched counties of California alone furnished gold, silver and copper last year to the amount of \$12,000,000.

The output of oranges from southern California amounts to nearly thirty thousand

raw potatoes, together with enough corn sprinkled in to keep the basement level and to keep the manure from heaving. I feed very little grain, but the hogs do well. When they will dress about two to three hundred pounds I sell them to the market for what they will bring, and this is usually a pretty good price.—T. B. B. Golden Ridge, Me.

I make no pretense at raising hogs. My business is dairying and I keep hogs enough to consume my surplus milk with a little grain. For our own use we prefer a hog from ten to twelve months old, well fattened on middlings and corn meal mixed until towards the close of the fattening period, finally whole corn. This gives the pork a firmer texture and is better for general use. We slaughter, as do most people, letting the meat cool out thoroughly and salt it well in a clean, sweet barrel, using plenty of Turks Island salt, putting into the barrel as little meat as possible. I usually sell most of the lean meat.—L. O. Straw, Newfield, Me.

I kill and dress my hogs in the usual way, and scald them. After a couple of days out them and dry salt the hams and bacon by putting them skin side down on a board, and rubbing them over three times with fine salt, nothing else. It usually takes about one week to strike enough to dry, then smoke. This process is only for cold weather use. For hams to keep through summer I put it in a strong brine about two

quires care. Square cans are best and when filled the sap should be heated to a temperature of 125°. The proper density of sap is about eleven pounds to the gallon. It is thinner it is likely to ferment; if thicker it will turn to sugar at the sides and bottom. Wrap each can in paper and ship in a well-made crate, upon which appears the address of the shipper, as well as the person whom the package is sent.

Rutland, Vt. G. H. GRIMM.

WHAT THE GARDENERS ARE DOING.

PLANTING DELAYED.

The gardening season around Boston is backward, so far as outdoor work is concerned. Not much planting has been done except by a few early birds like Frank Coolidge of Watertown and some of the Winchester farmers. In most parts of the district the soil is rather heavy, and nothing is gained in the end by hurrying the seed into the ground too early. The gardeners had more or less unfortunate experience along this line last spring, and are now rather inclined to follow a safer plan. Some peas, radishes, lettuce, etc., have been planted.

FOR CROPS UNDER GLASS.

It has been a hard winter, with slow growth, a good deal of mould, rot and drop and heavy coal bills. Prices, however, averaged well. "We sold about \$12,000 worth of lettuce from our seven houses," said Mr. Skehan, "but we had to shovel in seven and one-half tons of coal every night. Our

Dairy.

Imported Guernsey, Glenwood Girl.
Prepotency is the key-note to successful breeding, and nowhere can be found a better illustration of this than in the Glenwood Girl family, four generations of which can be seen at Haddon Farms, Haddonfield, N. Y. Glenwood Girl is mother of seven remarkable daughters, all resembling their parent in style, vigor and robust constitution, and having individual official butter records, varying from 413.19 pounds to 667.5 pounds per year. The larger illustration shows Glenwood Girl in three positions. The smaller views show six of her daughters.

Butter Tests of Jerseys.

Diploma's Brown Phyllis: Sire, Minute Gun; dam, Diploma's Phyllis. Butter, 16 pounds 15 ounces; milk, 288 pounds. Test made from June 1 to 7, 1903; age, 4 years 3 months; estimated weight, 800 pounds; fed 7 pounds bran, 4 pounds corn meal, 4 pounds ground oats and 2 pounds oil meal, daily—good clover pasture. Property of Richardson Brothers, Davenport, Ia.

Duchess of Chilhowee: Sire, Princess 2d's Jubilee; dam, Hugo's Duchess. Butter, 14 pounds 8 ounces; milk, 233 pounds 4 ounces. Test made from March 7 to 13, 1904; age 5 years 6 months; estimated weight, 850 pounds; fed 63 pounds bran, 21 pounds corn meal, 21 pounds cottonseed meal, 245 pounds corn ensilage and about 140 pounds pea hay—short rye pasture four hours per day. Property of Amory S. Dunbar, Augusta, Ga.

Helen of Brook Farm: Sire, Hanover Hugo; dam, Nellie Clark. Butter, 17 pounds 4 ounces; milk, 285 pounds 13 ounces. Test made from Feb. 24 to March 1, 1904; age, 6 years 4 months; estimated weight, 750 pounds; fed 49 pounds corn meal, 42 pounds gluten, 262 pounds wheat bran, 70 pounds ensilage and 70 pounds hay. Property of William Whiting, Holystone, Mass.

Kate H. of Brook Farm: Sire, Hanover Hugo; dam, Little Kate Picture. Butter, 14 pounds 8 ounces; milk, 238 pounds 8 ounces. Test made from Feb. 24 to March 1, 1904; age, 6 years; estimated weight, 700 pounds; fed 56 pounds bran, 28 pounds corn meal and 14 pounds cottonseed meal—Johnson grass and vetch pasture. Property of Amory S. Dunbar, Augusta, Ga.

Heavy Yield from Holsteins.

Following is a brief summary of official records of forty-one Holstein-Friesian cows, received and approved during eight days, from April 4 to April 12. All were made under the careful supervision of State experiment stations. The superintendent of advanced registry estimates the butter on the basis of 85.7 per cent. of a pound of fat to a pound of finished butter, the rule of the American Association of Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations. On the whole the records of this period are the most remarkable of any given period reported since the commencement of official testing.

Eight of the cows, averaging in age 6 years 8 months 4 days, produced in thirty days 17,183.6 pounds milk, containing 556,761 pounds butter fat, equivalent to 649 pounds 8.9 ounces finished butter. The largest production of a single cow was 91 pounds 10 ounces of butter, an average of over 3 pounds per day. The average production of the eight cows was as follows: Milk 2148 pounds, butter fat 69.595 pounds, equivalent butter 81 pounds 3.1 ounces.

One of the cows was tested sixty days. She produced 450.75 pounds of milk, containing 145.830 pounds fat, equivalent to 170 pounds 2.2 ounces finished butter, an average of nearly 3 pounds per day during the whole period.

Of the cows making seven-day records, ten of full age averaged, age 6 years six months 7 days, days from calving to commencement of record 21: Milk 500.6 pounds, fat 16,605 pounds, equivalent butter 19 pounds 5 ounces. Eight four-year-old averaged, 4 years 5 months 21 days, days from calving to commencement of record 18: Milk 437.8 pounds, fat 14,448 pounds, equivalent butter 16 pounds 13.7 ounces. Eleven three-year-olds averaged, age 3 years 6 months 5 days, days from calving to commencement of record 13: Milk 370.7 pounds, fat 12,465 pounds, equivalent butter 14 pounds 8.7 ounces. Twelve classed as two-year-olds averaged, age 2 years 6 months 9 days, days of calving to commencement of record 20: Milk 319.6 pounds, fat 10,255 pounds, equivalent butter 11 pounds 15.5 ounces.

Yorkville, N. Y., April 12. S. Hoxie.

Dairy Markets Dull and Easy.

Demand for fresh dairy and creamery is only moderate, but is sufficient to prevent any great surplus at present rate of arrivals. The reserves in cold storage still overhang the market, not only preventing improvement, but actually forcing down average prices another small fraction this week. The situation is rather worse at Boston and New York than at the West, where storage butter is less of a problem this year than at the East. Strictly fancy, fresh creamery is selling very well. It is the lower grades, both storage and fresh milk, that hurt the market. As the season grows later the stored butter is not of course improving in grade, and the proportion of second- and third-grade butter is increasing. Some of the stored butter will no doubt be held over in hopes that a dry summer will improve general prices. There is a large supply of box and print butter, and prices range not much above tub butter. Cheese is quiet, with prices tending lower.

Cable advice to George A. Cochrane from the principal markets of Great Britain give butter markets as dull and lower. The arrivals of Danish, French and Irish are very large, and those from the big home make going on, gives markets over to buyers entirely, and quotations must be regarded as purely nominal. Finest Danish 21 to 22 cents. Finest Australian and New Zealand 14 to 19 cents. Finest Canadian 13 to 18 cents. Finest Russian 15 to 17 cents. American butter is meeting a little favor. Really good creamery is offered at 16 to 17 cents per pound. Butter 14 to 15 cents, without discriminating buyers to any extent, and the amount of heavy butter is damp, pointing to importers. Cheese markets are lower, and the large stocks and heavy shipments on the way make receivers very uneasy, who, in a quiet way, are pressing sales and meet buyers for liberal quantities. Finest white American and Canadian 9 to 10 cents, colored bringing from one-quarter to one-half cent more.

Stock of butter and eggs in Quincy Market Cold Storage Company, April 16, 1904: Butter 15,702 packages; last year 16,658 packages; eggs 330 cases; last year 25,155 cases. Stock of butter and eggs in Eastern Cold Storage Company, April 16, 1904: Butter 15,704 packages; last year 2394 packages; eggs 330 cases; last year 1631 cases.

... What a power of joy there must be in God, to be able to keep so many larks so full of bliss.—George Macdonald.



GLENWOOD GIRL, 3rd, Record 541.8 lbs.



GLENWOOD GIRL, 4th, Record 504.6 lbs.

Agricultural.

Crop and Produce Items.

Receipts of milk at New York for February, 1904, compared with February, 1903, are: 1904, 5,496,810 gallons; 1903, 7,672,470 gallons; of cream and condensed milk for 1904, 329,400; 1903, 291,250 gallons. The figures show an increase of milk of over ten per cent., and of cream over twelve per cent. Average price 1904, 3 cents per quart; 1903, 3 cents.

The United States leads the world in the production of salt, the annual production exceeding twenty million barrels. Michigan and New York each produce about 7,000,000 barrels. The United States produces about twenty-three per cent. of the world's supply. Germany is the second largest producer, France third.

The "Corn Trade Year Book" published in London, estimates that in consequence of the unfavorable summer of 1903, only 3,500,000 quarters of British wheat will reach the mill, making it necessary to import twenty-seven million quan-

tums will be planted with this crop in all parts of the country. One New York firm reported sales of seed stock amounting to eight hundred carloads, prices at the shipping stations in Maine being \$3 per sack. In some of the outside market potatoe are sold at prices varying somewhat from quotations in the large cities. St. Paul gives a quotation, \$1.25 per bushel, at Syracuse \$1.15, at Evansville, Ind., \$1.20. Seed potatoes at Ithaca, N. Y., are reported \$2.50 per bushel for best kinds.

Hay Plenty.

Most Eastern markets are oversupplied, although not to an extent sufficient to make lower prices. The chief effect is seen in dull trade and a waiting attitude on the part of buyers, who are hoping that further arrivals will cause a decline. Canadian farmers, who usually ship with the opening of the canal navigation, are very firm in their views at present and inclined to hold back for a summer rise. Very likely both sides will be disappointed and prices remain about as they are for some time. The worst feature of the

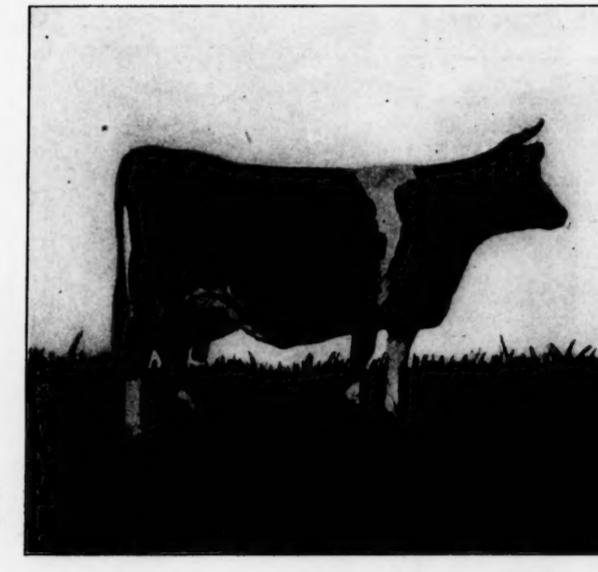
in the three southern States has dried out well, and considerable plowing has been done, with some planting of peas, setting of onions, and in a few favored places, early potatoes planted. Grass, except on some land where the ice was too heavy, wintered well, as is also the case with fall-sown grain. Tobacco plants are up in many beds, but the season is apparently no earlier than usual. The reports as to maple sugar are somewhat conflicting, but the consensus of opinion seems to be that there will be an average run of sap, and that the sugar and syrup so far made are of excellent quality. Peach buds especially on low lands have suffered a great check by the extremely cold weather that prevailed in January, but it is thought that enough escaped injury to insure a fairy good crop if nothing further occurs to damage them. Apple, pear and plums seem to have passed through the winter all right, although in the north it is too early to be certain of the result of the cold. Of small fruits, some raspberries and blackberries were killed, and some strawberry beds were damaged by the ice.

beings with red blood in their veins, and we can't help liking them. There are two young women of consequence in the story, Christine Hong, Brewster's early love, who later fell into the hands of the only real villain in the book, and Elinor Spencer. There are many exciting scenes in the book, and as a picture of the rise and fall of a boom town the story is unexcelled. Such books as these, which picture life which has now passed away, have a value beyond that of the general run of novels. There are several spirited illustrations by Arthur E. Beecher. (Boston: Little, Brown & Co. Price, \$1.50.)

"The Door in the Book" is a sweetly fanciful story in which a little girl from New York is introduced at the old home of some of her forbears in Deerfield, Mass., to many of the children of the Bible in a way that is as strange "as aught of fairy lore." She unlocks a door that lets her into the



GLENWOOD GIRL, 5th, Record 413.19 lbs.



GLENWOOD GIRL, 6th, Home Record 624.6 lbs. Official Record 667.5 lbs.

ters of foreign and Colonial wheat. Ten years ago Britain took seventy per cent. of her grain from the United States. In 1903 she took only about forty per cent., Argentina and Russia taking the place of the United States.

The Grain Markets.

Prices have fluctuated according to the complexion of the news, from day to day, and the average result indicates a slight downward tendency. Crop news is somewhat conflicting, but to all appearances the outlook for winter wheat is not up to the average so far, and the seeding of the spring crop is delayed. Prospects in the Southwest are considered a little better, except that rain and warmer weather are needed. Along the line of the movement the export demand, character of speculation or the cash position in general, there has been little change from last week.

The Kansas State crop report for April makes the condition of wheat eighty-three per cent., against ninety per cent. last December and ninety-seven per cent. in April last year. Rain

market is the abundance of the poorer grades. At present the market looks worse in the East than in the West, where prices are firm or higher under moderate or scanty supplies. Most Southern markets are about steady, with supplies lighter. Hay straw is scarce and high as ever. About five hundred tons were imported from Europe last week. This imported straw is of very select grade and is much liked by those who have tried it. At this year's prices the crop would pay well on high-cost land, and no reason appears why just as good straw cannot be grown here as in Europe.

Vegetables in Better Supply.

Both native and Southern vegetables seem rather more plenty than for several weeks past, but trade has been quite active and prices not greatly changed. This is the season when the hot-house men and Southern truck growers reap a good harvest. Their products are about the only attractive vegetables in the market and their crops are produced at less cost and risk than during the cold days of winter. Old beets, carrots,

Literature.

Here is a story of the plains by one who knows the life as an artist knows his paints. John H. Whitson in "Barbara, a Woman of the West," demonstrated considerable ability as a writer, but in "The Rainbow Chasers" he has made a marked improvement. Indeed there are episodes in his latest book equal to "The Virginian," and as an account of the ill-fated Kansas and boom of 1885 it reads like realistic history. The hero who starts out with the name of Dick Brewster, and later on takes the name of Jackson Blake, inasmuch as he is a fugitive from justice, has an eventful career. Escaping from an Arkansas jail, where he had been taken after having been convicted for murder, he drops out of sight for a while, and then turns up as a companion of Jim Pretho, one of the best cowboys that

picturesque lands of the Scriptures, where she meets a guide who takes her through sacred scenes in the reverent spirit befitting the times, the places and the persons visited. This is a book that will both please and edify the children. (New York: Fleming H. Revell Company. Price, \$1.00 net.)

"Doughnuts and Diplomas" is the alliterative title of a story by Gabrielle E. Jackson, so favorably known as a writer of edifying fiction for girls. The heroine of her present tale is a sensible, self-respecting young lady who is obliged to start out early in life to help support a household, of which the maternal head lacks judgment and perseverance, though she is not deficient in intellectual qualities that are inherited by her daughter, who has to manage the practical affairs of the home. The mother, however, meets with success as an author, and wins a second husband who promises to be really a second father to her children.

Some nice young bulls are now offered for sale. Also females bred to such noted Scotch bulls as Peat, Black, and others. For further information apply to the breeder.

Address as above.

W. D. HOWLAND, III.

CHAMPION HERD, 1900, 1901, 1902.

Up-to-date prize-winning Chester bulls. This herd won more prizes in 1900, 1901 and 1902 than any Chester White herd in the world. If you want stock from this herd apply to W. D. HOWLAND, III.

J. W. DORSEY & SONS, Perry, Ill.

MOORMAN & MILLER.

WINCHESTER, IND.

Breeders of Scotch and Scotch-topped Short-Horns.

Some nice young bulls are now offered for sale. Also females bred to such noted Scotch bulls as Peat, Black, and others. For further information apply to the breeder.

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JAMES BROTHERS, PUBLISHERS, BOSTON.

THE ANGORA CAT.

A Superb Edition. Beautifully Illustrated, Telling How to Care for, Breed, Train and Manage Them.

Only book of its kind. Contains most important chapters on the Origin, How to Train, Care for, Breeding, Proper Food, Breeding and Training, Exhibiting, Handling, Cleaning, Washing and Grooming, Diseases. The Correct Type, Different Colors, besides interesting stories of how to care for the cat, and how to care for the dog, about them. O'er thirty-five half-tone illustrations from My Cat Tom," "A Cat Letter," "Rats," "A Forgetful Cat," "A Cat's Home," "A Cat Story," "The St. Louis Cat," "A Hospital Cat," all interesting and instructive from the hand of an excellent creature on the cat, forms a delightful gift book.

No author has ever written in this book on his selected topic, as one having authority, than is Mr. James J. H. appearing as an exponent of the Angora cat, for the first time. Specimens of these lovely creatures owe not only their existence, but their excellence, to the skill, care and art of this author. The book contains much useful information as to the diet and general care of the cat, in fact, work that is hard to find in any book on the value and beautiful animals.—"New York Voice."

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MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN
THE ENGLISH AND
JOURNAL OF
AGRICULTURE

TELEPHONE NO. 3707 MAIN.

Apparently it is a case of oil for Olney.

The pioneer strawberry grower is dead; but the taste for strawberries gives every evidence of being immortal.

Undoubtedly the saddest butterfly of the week was the young man who was arrested while begging for money to go to a dance.

Patriots' Day being a Massachusetts holiday it is not unnatural that it should have its due proportion of Massachusetts east wind.

The real triumph of the Horse Show seems to have been achieved by the neat little costume exhibited by Mr. "Doo" Shea.

The Philadelphia mint has been making money lately at an average of \$2,000,000 a day—which is a pretty good day's work even for a mint.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat refutes the statement that the fair is to be opened with an ode. Let us hope it will not close with an owl, either.

A contemporary tells us of a woman in Lynn who "boasts five husbands." What a pity that so much obvious charms should be spoiled by boastfulness.

London has lately organized a Society for the Promotion of Ambidexterity. But will it permit the right hand to know what the left hand is doing?

Many an aspiring playwright will agree with the actor who says that a playwright should be born triplets—one of him to write plays, another to sell them, and the third to earn a living at something else.

After the various other things, it is pleasant to read of an official in the Postoffice Department who has prospectively saved the Government some millions of dollars by drawing a sharper line on second-class matter.

It may be cheaper to buy a quart or two of stale, cold strawberries at the store than to raise a bushel of nice fresh ones of some choice variety, but what a difference in the enjoyment of life! Now is the time to put out the plants.

Editor Hugo von Kuffner of the Berliner Lokal-Anzeiger declares that American journalism is way up at the head of the procession. In the words of a modest contemporary: "We are imitated but never equalled!" Hooch! Hooch!

Now that archaeological investigation has found the chasm into which Curtius jumped to save ancient Rome, we are able to wait more patiently for the finding of a fresh egg laid by one of the geese, whose cackling once answered a similar purpose.

Boston is again to be congratulated on Mrs. Gardner's taste in pictures. Mr. John Sargent has said that Degas' "Woman in Black" is the chief masterpiece of the nineteenth century, and Mr. Sargent certainly knows more about painting than most of us—even in Boston.

By watching a certain young woman's mail, Inspector Birdseye of Springfield recently captured a young man who was wanted on the charge of burglary. But it was evidently more than a bird's-eye view that the inspector obtained of the young woman's letters.

No one should be carried off his feet by this overbooming of the pigeon business and squab raising. Pigeons pay the right man, and so does poultry raising and all similar branches, but there is no occasion for a boom. People with stock pigeons to sell are behind the movement.

The man who plants the right tree in the right place benefits his country. This is a hint for a farmer boy or girl's celebration of Patriots' Day or Arbor Day, and it may be well to bear in mind that a tree dug early and kept in a cellar may be set any time up to the middle of June. But early planting is better.

Despite the optimism of a speaker at the Unitarian Sunday School Union we still fear that it would be difficult to make the Sunday School class as interesting as a baseball game. It would be easier to make it as interesting as possible especially as in Massachusetts it comes on a day when there is no baseball game to enter into competition.

Nothing improves the appearance of the home place like a fine, wide, thrifty lawn. Three or four clippings with a mowing machine will keep it fairly short and thick. Some men seem to prefer a potato patch in the front yard. These are suggestive of the advertising men of the city, who carry a big sign painted on the back of their overcoats.

Co-operative marketing has accomplished great things for the farmers of Denmark. Since the first society was started in 1882, three articles handled, butter, bacon and eggs, have scored remarkable successes in the best market of the world. Agricultural exports have increased fourfold and national wealth has increased very fast. Danish farmers are now getting the best prices in the markets of Europe, owing to uniformly reliable quality of the products under the strict rules of co-operative collection and sale. Canada has been doing something along a similar line under government direction. But in the long run co-operation is better than government control. The export dairy products, meat, poultry, eggs and fruit, of American farmers could probably be handled to advantage under co-operation. Otherwise all such exports are likely sometimes to pass into the hands of large corporations that will reap advantages rightly belonging to producers.

Of farmers who have not made a success of their business, perhaps three out of four would assign the cause to lack of capital. Good results were in sight, but the improvements could not be made, or the mortgage was foreclosed. It does appear sometimes as if money could make a success of almost anything. It is certainly fortunate for the older well-established farmers that their young competitors as a rule lack capital. In the words of a veteran Boston market gardener, "It's our capital that keeps us going. If it wasn't for that the young fellows would beat us out of our boots." Capital

and experience commonly offset youth and energy, and the balance of affairs is maintained. After all, the man himself comes first. Many a young fellow has fallen heir to a fine farm, all stocked and equipped, only to run through the whole property in a few years, while, on the other hand, some of our most prosperous and respected farm owners began as hired help without a cent beyond their wages. It is not always a simple matter. There are such things as illness, accident and the treachery of friends, but in the great majority of cases, the young man who more than anything else desires to become an independent farmer can do so. If the man and the steady will is there, capital enough will not be far off.

In the unknown possibilities of the soil lies a charm for the enthusiastic and thoughtful farmer. Is there a definite limit to the powers of the earth to support the dense population of the future? Or in a particular case, just what could be done with that piece of strong, mellow, smooth land, the garden spot of the farm, if worked with untrained skill, capital and industry. Results actually obtained where labor is plenty and cheap suggest that even with ordinary crops and simple methods one acre may be made to equal half a dozen or more, as commonly managed. Thus, in Belgium, where land is scarce, and the problem is to find work for willing hands, the farms often comprise only a few acres, but by many thoughtful farmers every pound of fertility is saved, the soil is worked and reworked, the grain seed carefully selected, and the young plants protected over winter. In the spring the wheat is transplanted by hand into drills and then cultivated from the start. The crop is sown on best of authority to sometimes reach 160 bushels of wheat per acre. But imagine a farmer in Iowa or Manitoba following such methods with help at \$2 per day. Sometime, as in Belgium, our population may reach five hundred people to the square mile, and then at least, very careful, thorough methods must be practiced. The fine art of food production has scarcely yet begun its development.

Milk Prices for Ten Years.

While the Boston price of milk may not yet be wholly satisfactory, a glance over the figures for the past ten years shows distinct gain for the producers, largely because of the efforts of the association. Thus in 1893 the gross summer price at Boston was thirty-three cents per $\frac{1}{2}$ quart can, and the winter price thirty-seven cents, while for 1903 the summer price was 37½ cents and the winter price 39½ cents. There was a period of depressed prices from 1897 to 1899, inclusive, but conditions began to mend as soon as producers took the resolute and persistent attitude which has characterized the association the past few years.

The New York milk market shows some gain during the same ten-year period. The wholesale price in 1893 was 2.79 cents per quart, average for 1903. In 1903 the average was 2.88 cents. These prices applied to cans, Boston size, represent a gain of from 23.62 to 24.43 cents. These prices are not exactly net to producers. The actual net to farmers shipping to New York market ranges from 2.1 to 2.3 cents per quart, according to distance from the city, while the Boston shippers now average about 3.3 cents per quart net, summer and winter average. Thus the Boston producers have decidedly improved both their actual and relative situations during the past ten years.

The advance in price, however, does not represent the whole gain. As a matter of fact, the improved conditions with reference to surplus milk, the distance discount and the restriction or territory may be considered equally important with the gain in Boston price, because such changes tend to place the milk supply on a business basis, while the producer can tell what he is to receive for his milk and how much the contractors are to make out of it.

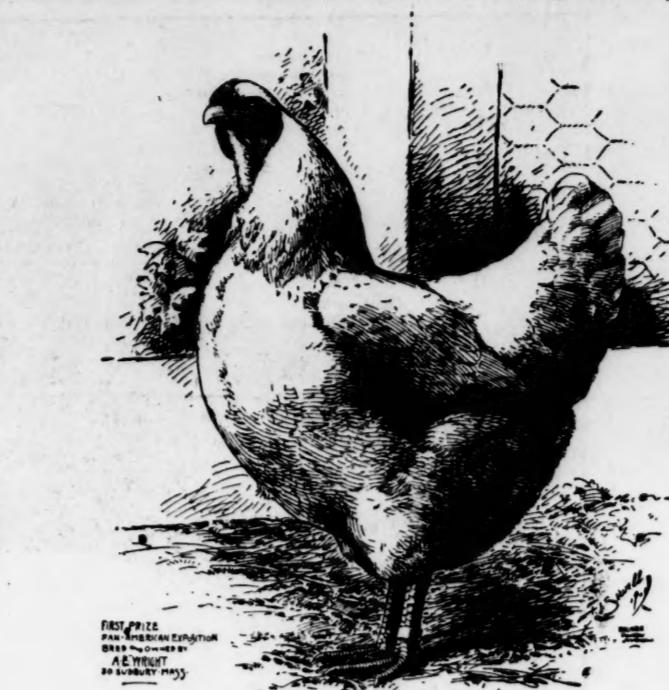
The improvement already made suggests a time to come when the producer will get a straight uniform net price at his station, based on the actual city retail price less the actual freight cost, a fair uniform surplus carrying charge and a fair handling profit. If the contractors should adopt this basis at once they could probably head off the co-operative milk-selling plan of the producers. Otherwise, it is only a question of a short time before the associated producers will take control of the entire milk supply, from the farm barn to the doorstep of the city consumer.

A Strike and its Results.

Emphasizing Bishop Spaulding's text, "Strikes are hell," the New York Mail and Express calls attention to the evils that have resulted from the building strike in the metropolis, when twenty-five thousand skilled workmen lost 1,700,000 working days and about \$7,000,000 in wages. Seven thousand carpenters lost 322,000 days, 1,175 steam fitters and helpers lost sixty-four thousand days, 2,400 truck drivers lost fifty-three days, 2,600 plasterers and laborers lost 31,200 days and nine hundred inside structural iron workers lost twenty-eight thousand days. If figures do not lie, this shows that the wage-earners gained nothing by the strike as far as money was concerned, and it is difficult to see that they attained any good end from the voluntary cessation from labor, if following the command of a union can in all instances be called the willing act of a striker, who is bound to follow the wish of a majority.

The strikers opposed arbitration and the efforts to establish permanent industrial peace, and the fight led to the breaking up and reorganization of the Board of Building Trades. Then it was thought that about half the strikers were declared to favor walking delegates, who desired to be bribed by rival employers, while it was more than hinted that some unions were like soldiers of fortune and fought under the flag through which they could obtain the most money, by favoring the warring capitalists that had most to give, and when Sam Parks and three of his fellow labor delegates were sent to Sing Sing, it was shown that many union men were working for their own individual interests and personal gain and not for the good of their associates at large. Through this strike, however, many individual cases of suffering, which were caused by the lack of money to procure even the necessities of life, were brought to light, including sickness, slow death by starvation and quick relief from earthly pains by suicide.

And evils arising from the strike still exist. The stop that it put to building operations has culminated in a demand for rooms in tenements that cannot be supplied, and a consequent increase in rents which the poor people cannot pay. Therefore there are daily evictions far surpassing in number any that ever took place in Ireland at one time. Not only are the poor suffering from the increase in rent, but the man of modest income is also feeling the financial pinch which the scarcity of ten-



A PRIZE-WINNING WYANDOTTE HEN.

ments, due to the cessation of building, has brought about. This is not all, for this depressing state of affairs has drawn out the anarchist from their holes and they are about oppressing and tyrannizing at the top of their brazen lungs. Who is at the bottom of this situation? Plainly those that stopped the wheels of labor at a critical period.

The "Unemployable" and the Bertillon System.

In one of his fables George Ade makes a fine distinction between those he calls the unemployed and the disemployed. The former, he explains, want work, but can't find it; the latter won't take work when it is offered. In England this class is described as the "unemployable." And it is with a new plan for dealing with them that Gen. William Booth of the Salvation Army concerns himself in a recently published pamphlet. He advocates the establishment of colonies or settlements to which vagrants shall be committed for terms of not more than three years. Forced for a sufficient length of time to cultivate the habit of continuous labor, vagrants would be permanently reclaimed, he believes.

The plan proposed is a definite embodiment of a suggestion made ten years ago by Mr. Bramwall Booth in "Work in Darkest England." Mr. Booth wrote then: "Is it not about time to take some simple way with your 'Won't Work?' Why should he not be brought before a magistrate, invited to practice some kind of employment or make active effort to obtain it, and in default be committed to an agricultural settlement and made to dig his bread out of the earth?"

At the same time that General Booth is making plans in England for labor colonies, discussion is going on in this country also as to the best method of dealing with the tramp. By a recent House bill (737) the Bertillon system of measurement is made to apply to persons committed under sentence as tramps and vagrants. Because of some misconception, there was developed at the start a certain amount of opposition to the passage of the bill. Yet the measure is a wholly reasonable one, and the end which it is calculated to accomplish thoroughly desirable. In the first place, the bill applies only to tramps and vagrants who are actually imprisoned as such—the chronic "unemployables," so to speak. It does not apply to persons under sentence, unless the sentence has been carried out and the man actually committed. It is, indeed, but a slight increase in the penalty imposed upon a man who has been sent to prison, and whose name and description must in any case be placed and must forever remain upon the public prison records. There is practically no public involved. The measurements and photographs taken under the Bertillon system are by no means posted up in the old-fashioned "rogues' gallery," to be looked over by the police whenever somebody, whose picture may be thought to be there, is arrested. The system, on the contrary, flies carefully away from pictures and measurements, and photographs which, though they may not be taken out for years, are obviously invaluable when the need of them arrives. And in these days when such shocking cases as that at Weston are repeatedly occurring, the public owes it to itself to take every possible care that the "unemployable" can speedily be located when, as so often happens, they cross the narrow border line between vagrancy and crime.

The advance in price, however, does not represent the whole gain. As a matter of fact, the improved conditions with reference to surplus milk, the distance discount and the restriction or territory may be considered equally important with the gain in Boston price, because such changes tend to place the milk supply on a business basis, while the producer can tell what he is to receive for his milk and how much the contractors are to make out of it.

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The "Unemployable" and the Bertillon System.

In the home-made nursery the opposite is always true. The owner has but a few trees to grow, and he can select his buds from any tree or any limb in the neighborhood and stand a better chance of good trees than from the trees of doubtful parentage. There is probably not a fruit grower who has not noticed these wide variations in trees in his orchard as well as in other orchards.

Home propagated trees, too, are more liable to be free from insect and fungous disease. Most of the insects that do the worst harm to our fruit trees have been disseminated by the nurseries. The San Jose scale has come slowly eastward till there is not a State in the Union but has it somewhere. Many of the plant diseases have been distributed in the same way.

While nurserymen who have a reputation to sustain do all they can to furnish good trees and will protect their customers, there are many good reasons why we might not turn to the methods of grafting that were used by our grandfathers. The fruit grower if he can get them is more interested in procuring more productive plants than an argument as to the possibility of propagating plants by this method or that.

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George O. GREENE.

Amherst Agricultural College.

Notes from Washington, D. C.

The Bureau of Animal Industry is preparing an instructive exhibit for the St. Louis Exposition of the renovated butter industry. Firms, tubes and pound packages of renovated butter are being prepared in wax imitation, and also various samples of the ten-pound packages used by the manufacturers for exportation, each package containing ten little pound packages. These, as a rule, are put up very attractively by the sixty odd renovated butter concerns operating throughout the country. The law requires the words "renovated butter" shall appear upon each package in square block letters no smaller than any other lettering upon the package. The packages are made up of cardboard enclos-

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THE COLUMBUS CARRIAGE & HARNESS CO., Columbus, Ohio.

WIND MAY FAIL YOU

but there is no substitute for the man who uses a gasoline engine on his farm. It is unique and the only running power—ever having supplied all kinds of power and progressive farms.

Fairbanks-Morse Gasoline Engines

are the simplest, safest and most efficient gasoline engines made. No special skill is required to operate them and they are especially adapted to farmers' needs. The portable engine is the most popular, traveling quickly to its work wherever located for sawing, etc. The stationary engine is the most efficient engine from 4 to 25 h.p. Stationary engines of highest quality in size and power are used for all purposes. You'll be surprised at the little cost of running. Investigate our catalogues free. Write for it now.

Chas. J. Jaeger Co., 160-162 High St., Boston, Mass.

Oregon, resulting from the present land laws—the Timber and Stone Act, the Desert Land Act and the commutation clause of the Homestead Act. The report is voluntarily presented as the result of the enormous amount of crime which has come before the grand jury in connection with these land laws. Perjury and subornation of perjury, it is stated, have become fine arts. Speaking of the commutation clause of the Homestead Law the report says that "this is another law that masquerades under the thin disguise of a boom to honest entrymen" and "the Desert Land Law is and has been used chiefly for securing large tracts for grazing purposes. It is often more of a burlesque than the old Timber Culture Law."

GUY E. MITCHELL.

NEVERA GAS...GASOLINE ENGINES

are the most reliable and powerful engines ever made. They are simple, compact, and easy to handle. They are built for all kinds of work, from small to large, and are especially adapted to farm work. They are built for all kinds of work, from small to large, and are especially adapted to farm work.

New Era Gas and Gasoline Engines For Sale, Exhibited in operation at HOLT & CO., 161 High St.

GREGORY'S SEEDS

Famous for nearly half a century for their freshness, purity and reliability—the safest, surest seeds to sow. Ask anyone who has ever planted them. Sold under three warrants.

Send to-day for free catalogue.

J. J. H. GREGORY & SON, Marblehead, Mass.

Stearns' PATENT SILO

Write for Particulars

A. T. STEARNS LUMBER CO., 156 Taylor St., Neponset, Boston, Mass.

GIANT PAPER FOR SILOS

Keeps all air out, rejects heat, rain and frost—keeps juices in. Will not rot. Elastic and very strong.

Manufactured solely by THE STANDARD PAINT CO., 100 William St., New York.

No Painting Required

DE LAVAL CREAM SEPARATORS

The "original" separators, they have always been kept easily the best. The longest experience and the greatest resources, together with protecting patents and by far the largest sale the world over have combined to make this possible.

Today they offer every conceivable advantage, complete separation, slow speed, ease of operation, absolute safety, and great durability, and all at less cost in proportion to actual capacity than can be had in imitating machines inferior in every respect.

They are made in every size and style, for from one cow to one thousand. Please send for catalogue and name of nearest local agent.

THE DE LAVAL SEPARATOR CO.
NEW ENGLAND AGENTS:
STODDARD MFG CO.
74 CORTLAND ST.,
NEW YORK.

The Markets.

BOSTON LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

ARRIVALS OF LIVESTOCK AT WATERTOWN AND BRIGHTON.

For the week ending April 27, 1904.

	Shoats	Sheep	and	Fat	Cattle	Sheep	Suckers	Hogs	Veals
Cattle	3212	4399	80	29,295	2863				
Sheep	4788	9430	40	26,547	2383				
Suckers	One year-olds	859	3194		17,388	1658			
Horses	750								

This week...3212 4399 80 29,295 2863

Last week...4788 9430 40 26,547 2383

One year-olds...859 3194 17,388 1658

Horses...750

Prices on Northern Cattle.

Beef—Per hundred pounds on total weight of hide, tail and meat, extra, \$6.25@7.75; second quality, \$4.75@5.50;

third quality, \$4.00@4.50; a few choice single pairs, \$7.00@7.50; some of the poorest bulls, etc., \$2.50@3.50. Western steers, \$4.00@6.00. Store Cattle—Farrow cows, \$15@25; fat milch cows, \$5@10; milch cows, \$30@40; yearlings, \$10@15; two-year-olds, \$15@20; three-year-olds, \$20@30.

Extra, \$4@5; sheep, \$4.20@6.75.

Fat Hogs—Per pound, live weight, \$2.80@3.50;

sheep, \$4@5; sheep, \$4.20@6.75.

Fat Horses—Per pound, Western, \$1@5@5.50.

Live Pigs—Wholesale, \$2.50@3.50.

75; country dressed hogs, \$4@5@6.

veal CALVES—\$3@5 P. B.

HIDES—Brighton—\$3@70 P. B.; country lots, \$2@3.

CALF SKINS—\$12@14 P. B.; dairy skins, \$4@6@6.

TALLOW—Brighton, \$3@4 P. B.; country lots 2@3@4.

PELTS—\$0@30@30.

LAMB SKINS—\$25@35.

Cattle, Sheep, Cattle, Sheep.

Maine, O H Forbush 16

At Brighton, H W Whitney 12

The Libby Co 18

A D Kirby 13

At Brighton, J S Henry 61

Farnham L S 16

At Brighton, A D Gilmore 16

O H Forbush 16

Scattering 50

Howe & Shirl 19

John 11

H A Gilmore 20

F Atkinson 25

Thompson & Hanson 15

Geo Cheney 5

Country Club 180

Old 10

At Brighton, J S Henry 50

At Brighton, S S Gilmore 112

W F Wallace 75

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The Horse.

Of all the medicinal agents at the command of veterinarians, one of the most popular as a purgative for horses is aloes, which, like so many other excellent medicines, is a vegetable product, and is obtained from the well-known aloë plant. While various other laxative agents act principally upon the stomach, aloes especially influences the secretions of the intestines, and is particularly useful in stimulating the peristaltic action or rhythmic motion of the bowels.

Curiously enough though it is so very largely employed (and with excellent results) as a purgative for horses, it is by no means so certain in its action as a laxative for ruminants as salts and other purgatives. As a veterinary preparation its use is largely restricted to equine patients.

Where deep mangers are used it is waste of material to make them deeper than will allow the animal to reach the bottom with comfort. Deeper troughs are more liable to become filled with dirt and feed, which mould and decay, creating in this manner a condition which is surely disease-producing and dangerous. Deep hay mangers should be slatted at the bottom to allow dirt to drop through and to provide for ventilation, but the arrangement below the manger should be such as to prevent an accumulation of dirt beneath the manger. Construct the manger in such manner that the animal can reach all parts of the trough with ease and without pressure upon the lower part of the neck. Cracks and crevices about the troughs are very objectionable; patched troughs are an abomination. Galvanized iron troughs are probably cheapest and best for horses, and these troughs are rapidly coming into good use for cattle. The corners should be rounded to promote cleanliness.

Barley, as is pretty generally known, is one of the most fattening foods which horses can receive, especially when cooked, but for a variety of reasons—and particularly because it is not conducive to the production of the stout muscular tissue which is so essential to staying power—barley has never met with much favor as a food for horses in this country.

Curiously enough, the Arabs, who are celebrated for the care they take of their horses, use barley to a very large extent in the feeding of their animals. Along with hay and straw, barley enters extensively into the food rations for Arab horses in many of the great desert tracts in which these animals find a home.

Colts of the heavy draft breeds are put into hard work oftentimes too soon, merely because they are large and have the appearance of strength. The heavy bone is soft and the muscles are not closely knit. The three-year-old can do a lot of work without injury, but it must be work that demands no severe straining. It is with even more difficulty that the four-year-old is kept in good condition when worked continuously. Light work demanding no strain is all that can be done safely by the heavy, loose-jointed horse until it is five years old.

A soaking tub may be made by cutting off about one foot from the end of a stout, tight barrel. The short end is filled with water and placed in the stall so that the foal will come in the tub. An hour or two of soaking daily is good for dry, hard hoofs.

A person who warrants a horse sound is liable for damages in case of falsehood, if the warrant was in writing or can be proven. But damages are not easily recovered and there is always some uncertainty. It is a good plan to buy, if possible, with privilege of a week's trial before payment. In fitting a horse for market feed plenty of laxative, nutritious food, including a little oil meal. Brush and groom thoroughly every day, paying special attention to mane and tail. Exercise twice daily.

The Delsine Merino Sheep.

(See illustration.)

This family of American Merinos has been established by increasing the size, smoothening the form, lengthening the fibre and adding somewhat to the mutton properties of the ancestral stock. In some families the polled feature is an additional characteristic. In those that are horned these should in turning keep clear of the face. The form in general has been enlarged and smoothened by the development of a tendency to take on flesh. The fleece being comparatively free of wrinkles has also contributed to the smoothness of form which is characteristic of the Delsine. As in the other type, quality of bone, skin and hair, and the addition of quality of fleece with fineness in every particular, should be mainly characteristic.

The Soothing.

I have heard of many stingy men, but the meanest person who has come under my observation recently is a man downtown who invited his best girl to dine with him before going to the theatre, for which he obtained "skulls," or dead-head tickets. He took her into one of the help-yourself sort of restaurants and regaled her on a ham sandwich, a doughnut and a banana.

"I knew she had a voracious appetite," he remarked, "and that was the most filling repast, at a reasonable price, that I could think of."

When I said that was rather a meagre lay-out, he exclaimed, indignantly:

"Why, it was a three-course dinner."

This reminds me of the man who took boarders, furnishing them only with morning and evening meals.

"Do you make much at this business?" I asked.

"Oh, yes," was the reply, "I stuff them with cereals for breakfast and with pea soup and sausages at night."

Stephen Blackpool found the world all a muddle, and many people look upon the building laws in a similar light. For instance, a friend of mine has had a brick wall pierced with windows, built so near the dividing line of his estate and another one that half a foot could hardly be inserted in the space left. If the wall had been an entirely wooden one, it would have been placed three feet away or so, but being brick, with windows set in without blinds, it is allowed to overlook directly with its glass eyes the neighboring premises. This is a distinction that seems as if it might have been born about the same time as the semicolon law. By and by houses may be built so close together that light will have to come from gas jets in an inch and a half of open outdoor space between the dwellings. Perhaps the cry in the future will be "Utilize all the land, whether the tenants can breathe or not."

The thumbscrew and the rack went out long ago, but all the methods of torture have not been discontinued in the efforts to

extort confessions from people suspected of crime. The so-called third degree appears to me a mental system of torture quite as cruel as any physical one that was ever invented or practiced in semi-barbaric ages. People under the old custom often said they were guilty of offences they never committed simply to escape the cruel treatment with instruments, ingeniously constructed, to create the greatest amount of suffering, without causing actual death, and it is possible that innocent persons, under the third degree, may make untrue statements to escape being treated as if they were victims of the Spanish inquisition. Nowadays an arrested man is considered guilty until his innocence is established. It used to be different, but other times other manners. Let us all hope that we may never be made the victims of circumstances and have to suffer guiltily for the good of the community without any prospect of redress. Some people remember the case of Cahill who was brought back from Europe and acquitted of a crime with which he was charged. The poor fellow was out of pocket and out of reputation, too, until the real murderer was found.

A suburbanite, who never gets up early enough to eat his morning meal before he rushes for the train, was lamenting last night the fact that he had to go every week to buy hay until luncheon time, and his wife said:

"I can tell you, Harry, how you can avoid the annoyance of which you complain."

"Let me know the remedy quickly," was the response.

"Eat your breakfast before you go to bed, Harry," answered the sportive spouse.

In this era of overestimated fortunes and profits, it is not surprising that boats are made about rapidly acquired gains. I was talking with a man yesterday about investments, when he exclaimed:

"I made \$78,000 last week, and the best of it was that \$38 of the whole amount was spot cash."

The regularity with which the dry dirt is removed from some back yards by the lordly ashman, and the tardiness with which it is taken out of others, make some persons think that a fee now and then expedites matters in regard to the carrying away of debris. This, however, must be a weak suspicion of the enemy. Of course, no city man would accept even a small gratuity. He is not obliged to take ashes out of cellars, but he does this occasionally, simply to be obliging.

Mrs. B. P. Cheney (Miss Julia Arthur), who has just returned to Boston from a trip to California with Mr. Cheney, gave daily luncheons to the small children in the towns where she stopped. No adults were admitted to these feasts, and each child was presented with toys and bonbons after the repasts were over.

—On the Continent no man seems to be really famous unless his features appear on a pictorial postcard. A Frenchman who has recently come to this country has received a letter from a person at Geneva asking for permission to reproduce his photograph in this form and offering ten per cent. of the total takings.

Gems of Thought.

...There are joys which long to be ours. God sends ten thousand truths, which come about us like birds seeking nest; but we are shut up to them, and so bring us nothing, but sit and sing awhile upon the roof and then fly away.—Henry Ward Beecher.

...A good life, like that of Jesus, is the only adequate expression of His way. For the life is the way in successful operation. The teaching or the principles of the way, apart from the life in which they are embodied, is completely dry and fruitless. Jesus fused the teaching and the life in His wondrous personality. His gathered sayings constitute the most precious literary treasures of the world. Yet they derive their value today from the interpretation given to them by the lives of His faithful followers.—William DeWitt Hyde.

...The man who finds not God in his own heart will find Him nowhere; and he who finds Him there will find Him everywhere.—David Swig.

...She thought to herself, "how delightful it would be to live in a house where everybody understood and loved and thought about every one else." She did not know that her wish was just for the kingdom of heaven.—F. W. Farrar.

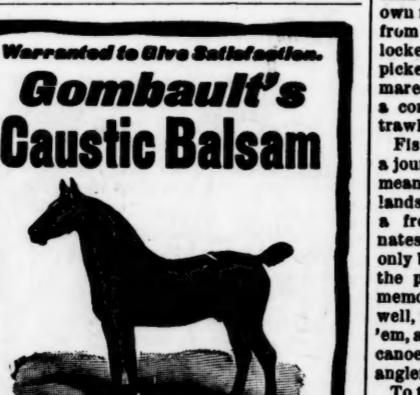
...Joy is for all men. It does not depend on circumstance or condition; if it did, it could only be for the few. It is not the fruit of good luck, or of fortune or even of hard and strenuous labor; it is of the soul, or the soul's character; it is the wealth of the soul's own being, when it is filled with the spirit of Jesus, which is the spirit of eternal love.—Horace Bushnell.

...Would that it were possible for the heart and mind to enter into all the life that glows and tempts the earth,—to feel with it, hope with it, sorrow with it,—and thereby to become a grander, nobler being! Such a being, with such a sympathy and larger existence, must hold in store the feeble, cowardly, selfish desire for an immortality of pleasure only, whose one great hope is to escape pain! No. Let me joy with all living creatures, seek with them all; the reward of feeling deeper, grander love would be ample.—Mark Twain.

...For, rightly understood, happiness not only is our aim, but is plainly intended to be such by our Creator. He made us to be happy; the whole bearing of revealed religion is to make us happy. Of course, the man who grasps at selfish enjoyment turns his back on happiness—self-sacrifice and exertion, where needed, are the way to happiness.—A. H. K. Boyd.

...Life, true life, is not mere happiness against bad, but growth in good and toward good.—Brooke Herford.

...When we acquiesce in an evil, it is no longer such. Why make a real calamity of it by

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City of Boston Bonds	300,000.00	Surplus from Earnings	1,000,000.00
Railroad and Other Bonds	1,446,530.92	Undivided Profits (Net)	592,500.00
Time Loans	3,832,531.48	Deposits	6,585,570.00
Demand Loans	2,160,103.80		
Cash in Office and in Banks	1,388,714.01		
		\$9,227,880.21	

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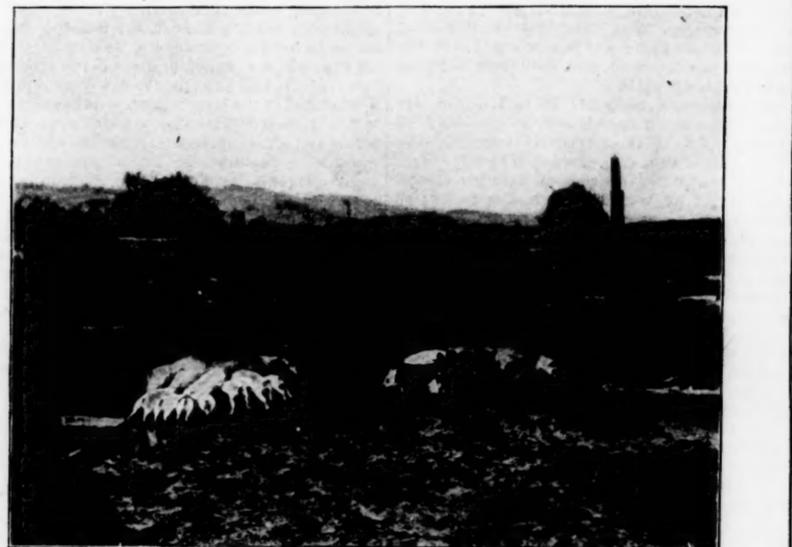
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